



Climate change and Australia's healthcare system - risks, research and responses

Author(s): Weaver HJ, Blashki GA, Capon AG, McMichael AJ
Year: 2010
Journal: Australian Health Review : A Publication of The Australian Hospital Association.
34 (4): 441-444

Abstract:

Climate change will affect human health, mostly adversely, resulting in a greater burden on the health care system, in addition to any other coexistent increases in demand (e.g. from Australia's increasingly ageing population). Understanding the extent to which health is likely to be affected by climate change will enable policy makers and practitioners to prepare for changing demands on the health care system. This will require prioritisation of key research questions and building research capacity in the field. There is an urgent need to better understand the implications of climate change for the distribution and prevalence of diseases, disaster preparedness and multidisciplinary service planning. Research is needed to understand the relationship of climate change to health promotion, policy evaluation and strategic financing of health services. Training of health care professionals about climate change and its effects will also be important in meeting long-term workforce demands.

Source: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/AH09829>

Resource Description

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Precipitation, Temperature, Unspecified Exposure

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Flooding, Hurricanes/Cyclones, Wildfires

Temperature: Extreme Heat, Fluctuations

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Ocean/Coastal, Rural

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Australasia

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Cardiovascular Effect, General Health Impact, Infectious Disease

Infectious Disease: General Infectious Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: Other Diarrheal Disease

Medical Community Engagement:

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern:

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Elderly, Low Socioeconomic Status, Racial/Ethnic Subgroup

Other Racial/Ethnic Subgroup: Indigenous Australians

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion, Review

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content